(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan of the Centre to help the State to develop their maritime sector to make the ports in Orissa to handle a good amount of cargo?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) There is one Major Port in the State of Orissa namely Paradip Port which is under control of the Central Government. Under the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP), a total of 28 projects involving an investment of Rs. 2403 crores have been identified to be taken up for implementation by the Paradip Port Trust over the period upto 2011-12. Non-major ports are under the overall jurisdiction of the respective State Governments. It has been reported by the Government of Orissa that draft Orissa Maritime Board Bill is under preparation.

Completion of NH-43 in KBK region

499. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of completion of NH-43 stretch of road passing through the KBK region in Orissa;

(b) whether this stretch is in a precarious condition in that it is full of pot-holes and breaches caused by rains and the stretch has become accident prone; and

(c) if so, the action plan of the Centre to expedite completion of the above stretch of the road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The length of NH-43 in Orissa, entirely falling in KBK region is 156.542 km. This comprises 104.655 km. of two lane width, 19 km. of intermediate lane width and remaining 32.887 km. of single lane width. The widening works to double lane width are at different stages of implementation in a length of 21.287 km.

(b) There were no breaches during the current year rains and the potholes occurred have been rectified. The road is in traffic worthy condition.

(c) The development & maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process. Based on inter-se-priority and availability of funds, the improvement works will be taken up in phases through Annual Plans.

Safety from Tsunami due to Ramsetu

†500. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the coasts of Tamil Nadu remained safe from Tsunami waves due to Ramsetu;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.